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FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5082
INFO RUCNASE/ASEAN MEMBER COLLECTIVE
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 1105
RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 9874
RUEHKA/AMEMBASSY DHAKA 4313
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 1773
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 3505
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 0487
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 6972
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 4590
RUEHCI/AMCONSUL CALCUTTA 0890
RUEHCN/AMCONSUL CHENGDU 0893
RUDKIA/AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI 0608
RHHMUNA/CDR USPACOM HONOLULU HI
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 2836
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 0483
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L RANGOON 001288

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STATE FOR EAP/MLS; PACOM FOR FPA; PRM/A:TRUSCH AND
S/CT:TKUSCHNER

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/07/2016

TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PHUM](#) [PREF](#) [PINS](#) [PTER](#) [BM](#)

SUBJECT: RESPONSES ON THE ARAKAN LIBERATION PARTY

REF: SECSTATE 133124

Classified By: PolOff Dean Tidwell for Reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

11. (C) SUMMARY: Post has no information that the Arakan Liberation Party (ALP) has engaged in any activities that are considered acts of terrorism, nor do we have any information that it poses any threat to U.S. national security or to the security of U.S. nationals or allies. Little information is available about the Arakan Liberation Party (ALP) outside of open sources. END SUMMARY.

12. (C) Post has no information that the ALP, or its armed wing the Arakan Liberation Army (ALA), has engaged in hijacking or sabotage of civilian conveyances. Our local source, U Ohn Tin (PROTECT), a central committee member of the Arakan League for Democracy, told us he knows of no efforts by the ALP/ALA to develop, acquire, or use weapons of mass destruction. He claims that the ALA has only a few light arms given them by the Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA) in the 1980s and that it has never used these weapons to harm civilians.

13. (C) Post has no evidence of any links between the ALP and USG-designated terrorist organizations, nor do we have information to suggest that the ALP poses any threat to the security of U.S. nationals or to the security of the United States or its allies.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

14. (U) Khaing Pray Thein founded the ALP in 1968. The regime arrested many of the leaders that same year and jailed them for 2-3 years. After ALP prisoners received a general amnesty in the early 1970s, Khaing Moe Linn, President, and Khaing Ba Kyaw, Vice Chairman, re-formed the ALP with help from the Karen National Union (KNU). The KNLA trained and armed as many as 300 ALA soldiers. In 1976, a group of 120

ALA soldiers made a circuitous march from Karen State through northern Burma en route to Rakhine State, during which they had more than 20 armed clashes with Burmese and Indian military units. Khaing Moe Linn and a dozen ALA soldiers died in these engagements, nearly 40 surrendered, and about 50 were arrested and imprisoned by Burmese authorities in Mandalay.

15. (U) In 1981 the ALP/ALA once again regrouped in KNU territory, under the leadership of Khai Ray Khai, with the goal of establishing a sovereign state in Rakhine State. Our source estimates the ALA currently has less than 100 soldiers. About half are scattered along the Burma-Bangladesh border and the rest remain near the Burma-Thai border. News media reported skirmishes along the Burma-Bangladesh border between ALA elements and the Burmese Army as recently as mid-2005.

16. (U) In 2004 the ALP joined with three other Arakan resistance groups (the National United Party of Arakan, Arakan League for Democracy, and the Democratic Party of Arakan) to form an umbrella organization of Arakanese nationalists called Arakan National Council (ANC). The ANC reportedly met as recently as May 2006.
VILLAROSA